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Market News

Issued LIVESTOCK DIVISION Weekly

MARKET REVIEWS AND STATISTICS

Vol. 24, No. 15 April 10, 1956

Week ended April 7

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
LIVESTOCK DIVISION
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MIDWEST LIVESTOCK MARKET REVIEW

Cattle receipts increased compared with the previous week and a year ago. Demand for slaughter cattle expanded, however, and prices showed a general advance. Factors in the improved outlet included the termination of Lent, resumption of kosher slaughtering operations following recent holidays, and moderate strength in wholesale beef prices. Fed steers sold steady to 50¢ higher at most centers, instances 75¢-$1.00 higher on high-Choice and Prime steers which are decreasing in volume as the season progresses. Hog receipts were smallest in seven months and butchers closed steady to 50¢ or more higher. Supplies of slaughter lambs were smaller than in recent weeks and prices advanced unevenly 50¢ to $1.50.

SLAUGHTER CATTLE AND CALVES

Marketings of cattle increased moderately compared with the previous week. Demand expanded, however, following the termination of Lent and improvement in the wholesale beef trade, and prices of most slaughter cattle showed a stronger trend. Fed steers closed largely steady to 50¢ higher, heifers mainly 25-75¢ higher. Occasional sales of high-Choice and Prime steers showed advances of 75¢-$1.00 reflecting the recent sharp upturn on steer beef of the same grades in wholesale markets and the increased competition for the diminishing supply of longfed steers. Cows and bulls sold mainly steady to 50¢ higher, vealers and calves largely steady.

Some heavy steers that had undoubtedly been held back until termination of the kosher holidays early in the week, were included in the run, and average weights of beef steers at Chicago, Omaha, and Sioux City were all above those of a week earlier. Prime offerings were rather scarce although making up a slightly larger proportion than in the previous week.

Due to the decreased supply and improved demand for heavy steers, there is now considerably less discrimination against such offerings, grade for grade, compared with weights under 1100# than there was some weeks ago when heavy offerings were in abundant supply. However, general price spread on steers is widening. At Chicago, for instance, Good and Choice bulked from $16.75-21.75, high-Choice and Prime $22.00-26.50, with two loads high-Prime 1192-1237# reaching $27.00, highest there since May 18 last year. At the other extreme were Utility to low-Good steers from $14.00-16.50. At midwest markets outside Chicago most Good and Choice steers cleared from $17.00-20.50, occasional loads high-Choice and Prime $20.50-23.25, a load Prime 1277# reaching $24.00 at Sioux City, highest there since September. At St. Louis National Stock Yards Choice vealers brought $21.00-25.00, few high-Choice and Prime $26.00-27.00. At South St. Paul Good and Choice cleared from $18.00-22.00, high-Choice and Prime $23.00-24.00.

STOCKER AND FEEDER CATTLE AND CALVES

Stocker and feeder cattle and calf receipts at terminal markets were little different from those of the previous week but fell somewhat short of the volume marketed the same week a year ago. Shipments of steers to the country from the 10 markets totaled 15,342, compared with 16,962 the previous week and 20,857 a year ago. Yearling stock steers continued to predominate with quality as a whole somewhat improved over the previous week as a relatively large percent of the offerings graded average-Good to average-Choice. There was considerable variation in the price trends for stockers at the different markets, due at least

in part to varying weather and moisture conditions. In some areas where recent snows have improved prospects for favorable pasture conditions, buyers were fairly aggressive for stocker cattle, this being reflected in a steady to 50¢ higher price trend at several markets, principally Sioux City, Chicago and Omaha. Meanwhile, in other areas, sub-normal moisture conditions often tended to slow the demand and at markets adjacent to such areas stockers sold steady to 50¢ lower. While a very uneven trend was displayed on stockers, feeder steers 750# up usually sold steady to 50¢ higher, in line with recent upturns in fat cattle prices. Good and Choice feeders cashed largely from $16.50-19.00. At Kansas City, high-Choice partly-fattened 998# steers sold for further feeding at $20.00. A few Choice 500-550# short yearling stock steers brought $21.00-22.00, and a load of Choice and Fancy 661# rated $21.50. However, other Good and Choice yearling stockers sold from $16.00-20.50, bulk downward from $19.50. Good and Choice steer calves ranged from $17.00-22.00. Most heifer calves sold downward from $18.00, a few upward to $19.00.

HOGS

Salable receipts of hogs at the 12 terminal markets and the Interior area were the smallest in about 7 months, but were still somewhat larger than during the same time a year ago. Shipping outlet was frequently rather poor, but most local packers purchased rather aggressively the greater part of the week. Resistance to advancing prices contributed to the erratic trends during the week, but closing prices showed net upturns for the sixth consecutive week. Eastern wholesale fresh pork prices were also very uneven as loins lost most of the week's early advances while other cuts were both higher and lower. Prices were steady to 75¢ higher than the previous Friday, bulk 25-50¢ higher. Prices for butchers were generally the highest since early October and at some points the highest since late September. While a few lots of butchers were sorted for grade and weight, bulk sold with relatively little sorting. Mixed lots grading No. 1 and 2 usually brought 25-75¢ or more than comparable weight lots grading mostly No. 2 and 3. Price ranges remained narrow, butchers weighing from 190-280# frequently selling within a spread of 50¢ per cwt.

Stocker and feeder pigs were mostly $1.00 higher. Good and Choice 130-150# feeders sold at Sioux City from $13.00 to mostly $13.50, some 160-170# $13.75-14.25. Good and Choice feeders sold at South St. Paul from $12.00-13.50, some 110# weights at $14.00. Increased supplies at Memphis brought 50¢-$1.00 higher prices, Good 90-140# $10.50-12.00, Medium $9.50-10.50.

SHEEP AND LAMBS

Receipts at the 12 markets decreased about 9 percent compared with the previous week and were smallest since early March. Spring lamb supplies were fairly liberal at some points, but old crop offerings predominated at most markets. Slaughter lamb prices were generally higher following the end of Lent and a resumption of normal kosher slaughtering, with continued small receipts the main bullish factor in the trade. At most points lambs sold 50¢-$1.50 higher, although at South St. Paul late declines left prices 50¢ lower. Slaughter ewes sold steady, while feeder lambs closed steady to $1.00 lower. Although discrimination against weight was less severe than a few weeks ago, lambs weighing 125-140# were still discounted $2.00 or more.

Good to Prime fed wooled lambs brought $18.00-21.25, a few loads $21.50-22.00. Included were mostly Choice 125-141# wooled lambs at $18.25-19.00.

Continued on page 306.

WEEKLY RECEIPTS OF SALABLE LIVESTOCK AT 12 PUBLIC MARKETS

Market	Cattle		Calves		Hogs		Sheep	
	Apr. 7 1956	Apr. 9 1955	Apr. 7 1956	Apr. 9 1955	Apr. 7 1956	Apr. 9 1955	Apr. 7 1956	Apr. 9 1955
Chicago	42,288	28,582	1,478	1,635	39,651	38,101	6,652	9,226
Cincinnati	4,441	3,464	1,279	1,316	15,025	15,565	206	564
Denver	13,787	13,174	474	1,549	3,056	2,630	20,781	16,280
Fort Worth	6,939	9,636	1,200	2,123	3,481	2,283	20,620	20,783
Indianapolis	8,844	6,622	1,075	1,162	46,248	45,111	1,236	844
Kansas City	21,186	19,109	1,287	1,882	12,159	8,459	9,649	9,170
Oklahoma City	11,406	11,088	1,024	1,174	4,617	2,960	1,428	1,493
Omaha	33,182	37,691	861	1,232	31,633	36,620	8,127	12,117
St. Joseph	14,963	13,632	962	894	26,169	25,481	6,658	2,547
St. Louis NSY	18,939	15,089	3,506	3,766	65,682	46,383	2,280	1,981
Sioux City	21,663	20,479	618	320	22,011	27,642	5,441	6,886
S. St. Paul	22,195	19,832	10,567	8,538	51,874	43,889	7,918	5,955
Total	219,833	198,398	24,331	25,591	321,606	295,124	90,996	87,846
Mar. 31, 1956	207,645		22,008		336,866		99,399	

INTERIOR IOWA AND SOUTHERN MINNESOTA

Week ended:	Hogs	Sheep
Apr. 7, 1956	336,000	28,400
Mar. 31, 1956	331,000	30,600
Apr. 9, 1955	267,500	25,900

FEEDER AND STOCKER CATTLE: AVERAGE COST, WEIGHT, AND NUMBER

	Week ended			Month		Three months	
	Apr. 5 1956	Mar. 29 1956	Apr. 7 1955	Mar. 1956	Mar. 1955	Jan. - Mar. 1956	Jan. - Mar. 1955
Steers – 1001# up	322	306	1,192	1,486	3,143	4,877	7,285
901-1000	925	1,790	1,708	6,303	9,474	17,911	26,287
801-900	1,684	2,441	1,914	10,939	14,470	37,321	40,641
701-800	3,035	3,007	3,866	13,421	13,787	41,770	42,279
501-700	9,376	9,418	12,177	39,354	45,607	106,587	116,535
Total steers 10 mkts.	15,342	16,962	20,857	71,503	86,481	208,466	233,027
Av. wts. " " "	687#	704#	697#	702#	716#	711#	719#
Av. cost* " " "	$17.35	$16.97	$20.71	$16.82	$20.41	$16.67	$20.00
" " " Chicago	18.22	17.77	21.06	17.22	20.18	16.97	20.07
" " " Ks. City	17.83	17.50	21.43	17.44	21.28	17.20	20.75
" " " Omaha	16.96	16.86	20.65	16.66	20.54	16.47	19.97
" " " S. St. Paul	16.48	15.87	19.22	15.59	18.65	15.20	17.98
" " " Sioux City	17.98	17.74	21.28	17.49	20.89	16.93	20.40
" " " Denver	17.98	17.15	20.77	16.02	21.26	17.30	21.92
" " " Ft. Worth	16.97	15.81	20.50	16.33	19.83	16.31	19.06
" " " Okla. City	16.21	16.04	19.43	16.18	19.97	16.27	19.18
" " " S. St. Joseph	16.77	16.29	19.95	16.65	20.28	16.46	19.78
" " " Natl. Stk. Yds.	16.99	16.84	19.50	16.16	18.98	16.15	18.76
Total calves–10 mkts.	4,437	4,297	7,600	19,304	30,435	72,375	95,561
" cows.							
heifers, bulls– " "	2,632	2,728	3,919	11,143	15,810	34,968	46,467

* Not adjusted for differences in grade of cattle sold at each market.

BEEF STEERS SOLD OUT OF FIRST HANDS FOR SLAUGHTER

Grade	Number of head			Percent of total by grades			Average weight (pounds)			Average price in dollars per 100 lb.		
	Week ended											
	Apr. 5 1956	Mar. 29 1956	Apr. 7 1955	Apr. 5 1956	Mar. 29 1956	Apr. 7 1955	Apr. 5 1956	Mar. 29 1956	Apr. 7 1955	Apr. 5 1956	Mar. 29 1956	Apr. 7 1955
CHICAGO												
Prime	1686	992	377	6.0	4.4	2.3	1282	1241	1224	23.85	23.28	30.59
Choice	15827	12039	9073	56.0	53.8	56.7	1202	1186	1146	20.84	20.09	25.43
Good	8700	7627	5019	30.8	34.1	31.4	1073	1066	1013	18.52	17.85	21.73
Com'l.	1920	1404	1352	6.7	6.3	8.5	997	969	977	15.98	15.74	18.27
Utility	150	326	174	.5	1.4	1.1	990	948	969	14.05	13.81	15.85
All grades	28283	22388	15995				1152	1131	1090	20.06	19.22	23.86
OMAHA 1/ 2/												
Prime	160	52	--	1.0	.3	--	1234	1209	--	23.17	22.96	--
Choice	9619	10213	5493	59.6	64.3	40.9	1179	1142	1102	19.58	19.21	23.99
Good	5224	4664	6295	32.3	29.4	46.8	1037	1032	1023	17.89	16.99	21.61
Com'l.	823	706	1434	5.1	4.5	10.7	1012	987	979	15.71	14.72	18.47
Utility	322	235	211	2.0	1.5	1.6	966	954	851	13.98	13.21	15.73
All grades	16148	15870	13433				1121	1100	1048	18.84	18.36	22.25
SIOUX CITY 1/												
Prime	249	134	--	2.7	1.4	--	1335	1455	--	21.95	21.35	--
Choice	5827	5167	2457	63.0	54.0	36.0	1186	1176	1153	19.87	19.21	24.27
Good	2758	3764	3582	29.8	39.4	52.5	1063	1099	1077	17.86	17.39	22.00
Com'l.	305	406	663	3.4	4.2	9.7	999	1017	1036	15.65	14.86	18.42
Utility	106	91	124	1.1	1.0	1.8	950	919	1008	13.92	13.55	15.92
All grades	9245	9562	6826				1145	1140	1099	19.20	18.35	22.43
KANSAS CITY 1/												
Prime	47	5	12	.1	.1	.4	1290	906	1013	21.80	21.50	28.00
Choice	2659	2025	838	40.1	29.3	25.2	1109	1129	1093	19.92	18.91	24.04
Good	3079	4206	2098	47.0	61.0	63.2	1050	1048	996	18.28	17.49	22.10
Com'l.	714	533	347	10.8	7.7	10.5	1016	1049	1017	16.12	15.17	18.01
Utility	124	129	25	2.0	1.9	.7	931	965	992	14.24	13.12	15.71
All grades	6623	6898	3320				1069	1070	1023	18.70	17.68	22.17
ST. LOUIS NSY 1/												
Prime	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Choice	1890	2607	52	28.4	38.6	1.2	1105	1126	1095	19.42	18.47	24.84
Good	3181	3074	2020	47.8	45.5	48.2	1010	990	1029	17.86	17.03	22.92
Com'l.	1400	931	1908	21.1	13.8	45.5	959	949	946	15.99	15.45	20.05
Utility	178	144	215	2.7	2.1	5.1	907	855	791	14.10	13.36	16.56
All grades	6649	6756	4195				1023	1034	980	17.88	17.37	21.42
S. ST. JOSEPH 1/												
Prime	35	40	20	.5	.5	.4	1214	1354	1307	21.02	20.50	25.50
Choice	3406	2907	1942	50.0	40.7	41.8	1148	1136	1096	19.68	18.96	23.91
Good	2497	3417	2109	36.7	47.9	45.4	1026	1066	1021	17.86	17.42	21.02
Com'l.	792	662	516	11.6	9.3	11.1	975	981	1001	15.75	15.27	17.96
Utility	84	111	62	1.2	1.6	1.3	895	912	917	13.88	13.25	15.03
All grades	6814	7137	4649				1080	1086	1050	18.58	17.86	21.91

Continued.

2/ Correction: Month March 1956, all grades beef steers, weight 1107 pounds, cost $17.90.

BEEF STEERS SOLD OUT OF FIRST HANDS FOR SLAUGHTER

Grade	Number of head			Percent of total by grades			Average weight (pounds)			Average price in dollars per 100 lb.		
	Week ended											
	Apr. 5 1956	Mar. 29 1956	Apr. 7 1955	Apr. 5 1956	Mar. 29 1956	Apr. 7 1955	Apr. 5 1956	Mar. 29 1956	Apr. 7 1955	Apr. 5 1956	Mar. 29 1956	Apr. 7 1955
DENVER 1/												
Prime	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Choice	4601	3656	3031	71.8	73.9	83.2	1137	1159	1104	19.90	19.19	23.73
Good	1556	1250	467	24.3	25.3	12.8	1068	1080	1040	18.47	17.59	21.87
Com'l.	141	--	131	2.2	--	3.6	950	--	1041	15.77	--	15.75
Utility	107	40	16	1.7	.8	.4	1046	999	993	14.11	14.27	14.00
All grades	6405	4946	3645				1115	1138	1093	19.40	18.77	23.19

1/ These summaries developed from data collected on marketings of fed cattle by the Agricultural Estimates Division.

ESTIMATED FEDERALLY INSPECTED SLAUGHTER AND MEAT PRODUCTION

Week ended	Beef		Veal		Pork (excl. lard)		Lamb and mutton		Total meat prod.	Total lard prod.
	Number	Prod.	Number	Prod.	Number	Prod.	Number	Prod.		
	1,000	mil. lb.	1,000	mil. lb.	1,000	mil. lb.	1,000	mil. lb.	mil. lb.	mil. lb.
Apr. 7, 1956	351	196.6	149	15.6	1,211	159.6	254	12.4	384.2	42.4
Mar. 31, 1956	339	188.1	145	15.2	1,238	162.7	273	13.4	379.4	42.1
Mar. 24, 1956 1/	350	196.0	154	16.2	1,329	174.6	299	14.7	401.5	44.4
Apr. 9, 1955	325	174.3	143	15.0	1,053	146.7	257	12.3	348.3	36.6
Percentage change from:										
Mar. 31, 1956	+4	+5	+3	+3	-2	-2	-7	-7	+1	+1
Apr. 9, 1955	+8	+13	+4	+4	+15	+9	-1	+1	+10	+16

Week ended	Average weights (lb.)								Lard yield per 100 lb.
	Cattle		Calves		Hogs		Sheep and lambs		
	Live	Dressed	Live	Dressed	Live	Dressed 2/	Live	Dressed	
Apr. 7, 1956	1,010	560	190	105	232	132	103	49	15.1
Mar. 31, 1956	1,005	555	190	105	231	131	105	49	14.7
Mar. 24, 1956	1,010	560	190	105	231	131	104	49	14.3
Apr. 9, 1955	969	536	190	105	245	139	101	48	14.2

1/ Actual slaughter and revised estimate of production. 2/ Excludes lard.

WEEKLY SLAUGHTER UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION AT MAJOR CENTERS

City or Area	Cattle		Calves		Hogs		Sheep and lambs	
	Apr. 7 1956	Apr. 9 1955	Apr. 7 1956	Apr. 9 1955	Apr. 7 1956	Apr. 9 1955	Apr. 7 1956	Apr. 9 1955
Boston, New York City Area	10,362	8,177	10,136	11,337	55,529	47,786	34,678	35,899
Baltimore, Philadelphia	6,417	6,422	1,216	1,044	22,137	23,702	1,981	1,925
Cin., Cleve., Detroit, Indpls.	17,577	15,339	7,508	5,370	99,518	77,532	11,814	10,200
Chicago Area	25,315	21,834	6,938	6,575	54,505	55,898	4,985	7,674
St. Paul-Wis Areas	30,017	27,741	34,832	32,922	98,238	89,108	10,553	9,983
St. Louis Area	14,696	13,378	5,316	6,149	87,159	62,858	6,242	7,452
Sioux City	9,699	6,356	185	5	18,898	13,890	3,682	4,909
Omaha Area	28,805	28,461	688	954	57,893	54,493	10,435	15,920
Kansas City	13,989	12,157	2,780	3,890	30,755	25,280	8,845	12,002
Iowa-So. Minnesota	28,323	25,618	13,101	11,847	278,775	230,348	28,672	28,900
Lou'l. Evan'l. Nash'l. Mph's	8,981	9,298	7,352	8,679	57,608	45,528	Not available	
Georgia-Alabama Area	6,438	6,846	3,179	3,214	27,836	21,361	--	--
St. Jo'ph. Wichita, Okla. City	18,727	18,817	3,183	3,305	53,019	46,575	13,278	14,050
Ft. Worth, Dallas, San Antonio	14,227	17,701	5,841	6,796	22,376	19,996	19,475	24,631
Denver, Ogden, Salt Lake City	17,012	15,429	615	951	13,865	13,996	30,835	14,097
Los Angeles, San Fran. Areas	29,667	23,545	3,339	3,588	32,518	31,228	30,587	33,152
Portland, Seattle, Spokane	6,570	6,298	423	451	15,899	14,355	4,829	3,768
Total	286,822	263,417	106,632	107,077	1,026,528	873,934	220,891	224,658
Accumulation to date...	4,159,794	3,918,184	1,459,241	1,453,121	17121,731	14,294,201	3,463,903	3,381,348

ESTIMATED PERCENT FEEDER AND STOCKER CATTLE AND SLAUGHTER COWS IN SALABLE RECEIPTS

Week ended	Chicago	Kansas City	Omaha	S. St. Joseph	St. Louis NSY	Sioux City	S. St. Paul	Indianapolis	Denver	Fort Worth	Okla. City	Wichita	San Antonio
Feeders and stockers													
Apr. 6, 1956	4	37	10	10	4	21	5	6	8	20	40	32	35
Mar. 30, 1956	4	35	10	11	5	20	5	7	7	25	45	38	40
Apr. 8, 1955	4	47	15	18	5	25	10	7	10	30	55	38	35
Slaughter cows													
Apr. 6, 1956	6	10	10	11	12	6	20	12	8	13	12	18	25
Mar. 30, 1956	7	10	12	10	14	8	25	13	7	15	11	18	25
Apr. 8, 1955	15	14	11	16	16	5	30	25	15	30	15	17	30

CATTLE: WEEKLY AVERAGE OF DAILY QUOTATIONS

In dollars per 100 pounds

Classification	Chicago			Kansas City			Omaha		
	Apr. 7 1956	Mar. 31 1956	Apr. 9 1955	Apr. 7 1956	Mar. 31 1956	Apr. 9 1955	Apr. 7 1956	Mar. 31 1956	Apr. 9 1955
Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers									
Steers -									
Prime 900-1100#	24.35	23.98	30.50	23.00	22.42	27.80	24.00	23.30	28.50
1100-1300	24.85	24.30	31.15	22.80	22.20	28.30	24.00	23.30	28.75
Choice 900-1100	21.58	21.00	26.28	20.52	19.85	24.82	20.75	20.18	25.02
1100-1300	21.45	20.82	26.28	20.52	19.72	24.82	20.68	20.18	25.32
Good 900-1100	18.42	17.92	21.68	17.95	17.32	21.15	17.50	16.92	21.58
Com'l. All wts.	15.80	15.45	18.00	15.92	15.25	17.95	15.50	14.75	18.50
Heifers -									
Prime 600-800#	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Choice " "	19.20	18.85	23.38	19.52	18.72	22.75	19.32	18.72	23.00
Good 500-900	17.26	16.88	20.44	17.36	16.74	19.95	17.25	16.68	20.02
Com'l. All wts.	15.00	14.75	17.65	15.25	14.62	16.80	15.00	14.30	16.75
Cows - All weights									
Commercial	13.50	13.42	14.92	13.00	13.00	14.25	13.20	13.00	14.65
Utility	12.30	12.30	13.25	12.25	12.20	12.75	12.08	11.88	12.75
Canner & Cutter	11.22	11.32	11.42	11.25	11.12	11.00	10.75	10.38	10.50
Bulls - All weights -									
Good	13.00	13.00	14.00	--	--	--	12.88	12.75	13.00
Utility & Commercial	15.32	15.27	15.78	13.62	13.62	14.30	13.79	13.71	14.38
Vealers - All weights -									
Choice & Prime	23.50	24.00	25.40	22.00	22.00	21.90	21.00	21.00	22.50
Com'l. & Good	18.50	18.80	19.60	18.00	18.00	17.70	16.50	16.50	17.50
Calves - 500# down									
Choice & Prime	20.50	20.10	21.00	18.00	18.00	19.00	19.00	18.75	20.50
Com'l. & Good	15.75	15.45	16.30	15.50	15.50	16.20	15.00	14.50	16.00
Feeder and stocker cattle and calves									
Steers -									
Choice 500-800#	19.70	19.50	23.75	19.50	19.25	23.50	19.50	19.45	23.25
Good " "	17.15	16.75	20.82	17.25	17.50	21.00	17.25	17.25	20.50
Medium 500-1000	15.45	15.20	17.58	15.25	15.25	17.75	14.50	14.75	17.75
Heifers -									
Choice 500-750	17.20	16.90	19.75	17.00	17.00	19.50	17.38	17.00	19.00
Med. & Gd. " "	14.50	14.40	16.25	14.50	14.50	16.25	14.25	13.75	16.00
Cows - All weights -									
Medium & Good	--	--	--	12.00	12.00	12.25	11.75	11.50	12.25
Calves - 300-500# -									
Steers -									
Good & Choice	21.00	21.00	22.75	19.75	19.75	22.75	20.50	20.50	22.50
Heifers -									
Good & Choice	17.50	17.50	19.50	16.88	16.88	19.00	17.25	17.00	19.62

HOGS: WEEKLY AVERAGE OF DAILY QUOTATIONS

In dollars per 100 pounds

Classification		Chicago			Interior Iowa and southern Minnesota			Indianapolis		
		Apr. 7 1956	Mar. 31 1956	Apr. 9 1955	Apr. 7 1956	Mar. 31 1956	Apr. 9 1955	Apr. 7 1956	Mar. 31 1956	Apr. 9 1955
Barrows and gilts –										
U.S.No.1	160-180#	14.55	13.85	16.95	13.17	12.73	15.70	13.88	13.53	17.35
2 and 3	180-200	15.36	14.65	17.69	14.71	14.18	17.01	15.42	14.80	18.00
	200-220	15.60	14.81	17.70	15.11	14.66	17.26	15.52	14.93	17.88
	220-240	15.58	14.78	17.54	14.81	14.35	17.16	15.52	14.90	17.80
	240-270	15.35	14.66	17.08	14.40	13.95	16.67	15.02	14.48	17.15
	270-300	15.02	14.50	16.72	13.95	13.45	16.09	14.60	14.05	16.65
Sows –										
	300-330#	13.82	12.82	15.98	13.55	13.11	15.50	13.50	12.60	15.70
	360-400	13.25	12.48	15.50	13.06	12.62	15.00	13.00	12.08	15.12
	450-550	12.45	11.68	14.65	12.05	11.61	13.86	11.55	10.98	14.58
Pigs (stocker and feeder)–										
Gd. & Ch.	70-120#	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Classification		Omaha			St. Louis National Stock Yards			Sioux City		
Barrows and gilts –										
U.S.No.1	160-180#	--	--	--	14.88	14.30	17.58	--	--	--
2 and 3	180-200	15.62	15.11	17.82	15.48	14.88	17.82	15.46	14.72	17.52
	200-220	15.62	15.11	17.82	15.52	14.90	17.78	15.65	14.92	17.64
	220-240	15.62	15.11	17.70	15.50	14.90	17.49	15.56	14.88	17.52
	240-270	15.25	14.72	17.20	15.26	14.62	17.10	15.25	14.52	16.95
	270-300	14.78	14.32	16.45	14.76	--	16.69	14.58	13.92	16.28
Sows –										
	300-330#	13.78	13.48	15.80	13.35	12.75	15.78	13.82	13.30	15.82
	360-400	13.30	13.00	15.10	12.98	12.40	15.58	13.40	12.82	15.28
	450-550	12.35	12.20	14.40	12.10	11.58	14.78	12.42	11.82	14.08
Pigs (stocker & feeder)–										
Gd. & Ch.	70-120#	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Classification		S. St. Paul			Baltimore			N. Portland		
Barrows and gilts –										
U.S.No.1	160-180#	14.45	13.45	17.42	15.81	15.00	18.00	16.81	15.38	19.12
2 and 3	180-200	15.62	14.98	17.62	16.31	15.50	18.28	17.38	16.00	19.56
	200-220	15.60	15.00	17.52	16.31	15.50	18.28	17.38	16.00	19.56
	220-240	15.60	15.00	17.25	16.12	15.38	17.88	16.91	15.69	19.31
	240-270	15.25	14.72	16.60	15.62	14.75	17.38	15.94	14.50	18.56
	270-300	14.25	13.72	16.10	13.81	13.25	16.62	15.62	14.12	18.03
Sows –										
	300-330#	13.20	12.62	15.28	12.00	11.56	15.59	14.00	13.00	16.38
	360-400	12.82	12.28	14.70	11.97	11.44	15.56	12.00	11.75*	15.59
	450-550	11.98	11.68	14.15	10.72	10.12	13.50	11.00	10.50	14.81
Pigs (stocker & feeder)–										
Gd. & Ch.	70-120#	12.40	11.25	18.00	--	--	--	--	--	--

*Revised.

HOGS: AVERAGE COST, WEIGHT, AND NUMBER OF PACKER AND SHIPPER PURCHASES 1/

	Week ended	Chicago	St. Louis Natl. Stock Yards	Kansas City	Omaha	Sioux City	S. St. Joseph	S. St. Paul	Indianapolis	8 mkts. combined
AVERAGE COST -					Dollars per 100 pounds					
Barrows and gilts	Apr. 7,1956	15.24	15.35	15.35	15.20	15.27	15.33	14.93	15.45	15.25
	Mar. 31,1956	14.55	14.65	14.61	14.67	14.52	14.72	14.33	14.72	14.60
	Apr. 9,1955	17.02	17.42	17.38	16.97	16.74	17.34	16.83	17.59	17.16
Sows	Apr. 7,1956	12.89	12.57	12.45	13.04	12.92	12.92	12.41	12.19	12.64
	Mar. 31,1956	12.18	12.02	11.87	12.66	12.44	12.30	12.10	11.35	12.06
	Apr. 9,1955	15.09	15.13	15.42	14.79	14.77	15.18	14.62	14.80	14.90
AVERAGE WEIGHT -					Pounds					
Barrows and gilts	Apr. 7,1956	235	220	220	226	231	216	222	222	223
	Mar. 31,1956	233	218	217	224	232	216	218	221	222
	Apr. 9,1955	246	219	226	243	249	231	237	228	234
Sows	Apr. 7,1956	421	412	417	393	400	393	392	433	410
	Mar. 31,1956	429	409	403	405	393	385	390	436	412
	Apr. 9,1955	431	410	423	400	395	396	400	448	414
NUMBER OF HEAD -										
Barrows and gilts	Apr. 7,1956	30583	60594	11169	27938	18942	23688	44319	40380	257613
	Mar. 31,1956	31881	59032	13304	29502	24335	26907	39187	46698	270846
	Apr. 9,1955	30894	45415	7534	30629	23304	23311	36882	40857	238826
Sows	Apr. 7,1956	4689	3615	609	2954	1433	1481	3712	4060	22553
	Mar. 31,1956	4516	3461	752	2806	1408	1599	2504	3945	20991
	Apr. 9,1955	3435	2300	352	3434	2054	1450	3397	2936	19358
SOWS					Percentage of total					
	Apr. 7,1956	13	6	5	10	7	6	8	9	8
	Mar. 31,1956	12	6	5	9	5	6	6	8	7
	Apr. 9,1955	10	5	4	10	8	6	8	7	7

1/ Weighted average.

WEEKLY AVERAGE WHOLESALE VALUE OF HOG PRODUCTS DERIVED FROM 100 LB. LIVE HOG, COMPARED WITH PRICES OF LIVE HOGS, CHICAGO

	Hog products 1/	Hog prices 2/	Gross spread or margin 3/
Apr. 7, 1956	$17.20	$15.36	+$1.84
Mar. 31, 1956	16.64	14.65	+ 1.99
Apr. 9, 1955	19.07	17.69	+ 1.38

1/ Value of all edible products, fresh basis (lard rendered) in 100 lb. of live hog computed from wholesale prices on carlot basis, Chicago, reported by National Provisioner daily market report.

2/ Mean of daily quotations on U.S.No. 1, 2 and 3 hogs 180-200# wt. Chicago.

3/ Difference between wholesale product value and hog prices.

HOG AND CORN PRICES AT CHICAGO AND HOG-CORN PRICE RATIO

Week ended	Barrows and gilts Dollars per 100 pounds	Corn, 1/ No. 3, yellow Cents per bushel	Hog-corn price ratio based on barrows and gilts
Apr. 7, 1956	15.24	141.3	10.8
Mar. 31, 1956	14.55	136.4	10.7
Apr. 9, 1955	17.02	143.4	11.9

1/ Simple average price.

SHEEP AND LAMBS: WEEKLY AVERAGE OF DAILY QUOTATIONS
In dollars per 100 pounds

		Chicago	Omaha	Kansas City	Fort Worth	Denver	Ogden & North Salt Lake	South San Francisco
LAMBS - 110# down (WOOLED) -								
Choice and Prime	Apr. 7, 1956	20.95	20.60	22.22*	--	20.45	--	--
	Mar. 31, 1956	20.02	19.70	19.38	--	19.50	--	--
	Apr. 9, 1955	22.25	22.45	21.88	--	21.97	--	21.50*
Good and Choice	Apr. 7, 1956	20.25	19.70	20.80*	20.20*	19.28	17.25	--
	Mar. 31, 1956	19.35	18.95	18.25	19.40*	18.53	16.95	--
	Apr. 9, 1955	21.48	21.58	20.88	22.00*	20.81	19.35	20.50*
EWES (WOOLED) -								
Good and Choice	Apr. 7, 1956	7.75	6.50	5.25**	--	8.62	6.75	6.50
	Mar. 31, 1956	7.85	6.25	5.25**	--	8.62	6.75	6.50
	Apr. 9, 1955	7.92	7.50	8.12	--	9.50	--	5.50*
Cull and Utility	Apr. 7, 1956	6.00	4.50	4.00**	--	6.00	4.50	4.50
	Mar. 31, 1956	6.00	4.25	4.00**	--	6.00	4.50	4.50
	Apr. 9, 1955	6.68	5.50	6.62	--	6.38	--	3.75*
FEEDER LAMBS -								
Good and Choice	Apr. 7, 1956	--	--	--	--	17.90	--	--
	Mar. 31, 1956	--	--	--	--	17.66	--	--
	Apr. 9, 1955	--	20.00	--	--	--	--	--

*Spring lambs. **Shorn.

LIVESTOCK PRICES AT CHICAGO COMPARED WITH WHOLESALE AND COMPOSITE RETAIL MEAT PRICES AND WHOLESALE AND RETAIL MEAT VALUES AT NEW YORK

	Steers			Lambs			Hogs		
	Mar. 1956	Feb. 1956	Mar. 1955	Mar. 1956	Feb. 1956	Mar. 1955	Mar. 1956	Feb. 1956	Mar. 1955
	Dollars per 100 pounds								
Live animal prices Chicago 1/.....	22.00	21.77	28.94	20.61	20.39	23.24	13.45	12.75	16.52
Wholesale meat prices, New York 2/	35.51	35.62	46.91	38.42	37.04	43.98	--	--	--
	Cents per pound								
Composite retail meat prices, New York 3/	53.33	54.87*	69.17	51.23	51.22	58.49	--	--	--
	Value of carcass meat from 100# live animal (dollars)								
Wholesale-New York 4/	21.31	21.37	28.15	18.83	18.15	21.55	18.20	18.10	21.15
Retail - New York 5/	25.07	25.79*	32.79	24.18	24.18	27.61	23.07	22.95	27.47

1/ Av. Choice and Prime steers, 900-1100 lb., Choice and Prime lambs, and U. S. No. 1, 2 and 3, 220-240# hogs.

2/ Av. Choice and Prime steer beef, 600-800 lb., and Choice and Prime lamb.

3/ Composite av. of semi-monthly retail quotations on various cuts (incl.lard) combined in proportion to their respective yields from live weight.

4/ 60 lb. of beef carcass, 49 lb. of lamb carcass and 60.43 lb.** of principal hog products consisting of smoked, skinned hams, bacon, picnics, fresh loins, Boston butts, spareribs, and carton lard combined in proportion to their respective yields from live weight. **Changed effective January 1956.

5/ 47.0 lb.** of beef cuts, 47.2 lb. of lamb cuts and 58.56 lb.** of principal hog products, incl. lard. **Changed effective January 1956.

*Revised.

NEW YORK WHOLESALE MEAT TRADE REVIEW

Western Dressed Fresh Meats

Trading was slow to moderately active, being retarded by poor demand at the consumer level on the Easter weekend, and by the fact that many purchasers were absent from the market on Monday and Tuesday. Receipts of calf, cow beef, lamb and fresh pork were mostly moderate, while steer beef supply was normal. Veal was in normal proportions, with movement slow due to lack of buyer interest. Prices were strong to higher at the outset, but the general price structure lacked stability. Early advances on lamb and fresh pork were lost late, while veal grading average-Choice and below worked lower toward the close. Compared with the previous Friday: Steer beef steady to $2.50 higher; cow beef $1.00-1.50 higher; veal steady to $3.00 lower; calf steady to $2.00 higher; lamb $1.00-2.00 lower; fresh pork loins steady, other fresh pork cuts steady to $4.00 higher.

Majority of the steer beef consisted of Choice 650-900# carcasses. Demand centered primarily on hindquarters and related wholesale cuts which sold at higher prices. Demand lagged on forequarter cuts, and overly fat offerings were discriminated against. A reduced supply of cow beef sold at advances ranging from $1.00 to $1.50 compared with levels of the previous week.

Supplies of high-Choice and Prime veal were relatively small, and calf offerings were rather limited. These sold steady, but lower grade veal which predominated, was offered at weak to $3.00 declines. Spring lamb carcasses were liberally shown early, but old crop offerings predominated. Trade lacked stability and prices declined.

Late sales of fresh pork loins were made on a peddling basis, as sellers endeavored to avert a carryover. Loins and other fresh pork cuts closed mostly steady, however, with a substantial advance on fresh skinned hams.

Locally Dressed Fresh Meats

Kosher slaughtering operations were suspended the first two days of the week, and production of non-kosher fresh meats was held to a minimum. Steer kills, however, showed an increase but vealer slaughter was reduced. Lamb slaughter decreased while output of fresh pork was little changed from that of the previous week. Trade for non-kosher meats ranged from slow to fair. Beef prices advanced while other classes were lower, mainly on the basis of carcass realizations. Dullness prevailed in the fresh pork loin trade toward the close, with prices in most instances sharply lower. Kosher slaughter was resumed Wednesday, but stocks cleared slower than during the previous week.

Steer beef prices turned sharply upward, with most upturn on heavyweight selections, the supply of which was considerably reduced compared with recent weeks. Hindquarters found a broad outlet at sharp upturns, and demand for loin cuts at advanced prices supported this situation to some extent. Demand for kosher steer cuts was less urgent than at the height of the holiday season.

A moderately reduced production of veal and calf hindsaddles influenced mostly steady prices despite some pressure from buyers. The smaller lamb kills which consisted mainly of old crop offerings, met with a narrow demand. Spring lamb sold weak, while the practical top of old crop offerings was about $2.00 lower. Prices of kosher lamb foresaddles were about $3.00 lower for the week.

Demand for fresh pork lagged and transactions failed to keep abreast of the output. Wholesalers were quick to make adjustments applicable to prevailing conditions, and prices were revised downward, particularly on fresh loins.

CHICAGO WHOLESALE MEAT TRADE REVIEW

Volume of fresh meat was little changed from that of the previous week, and supplies were fully sufficient for demand. Beef consisted largely of Good and Choice offerings, with veal and lamb generally grading Choice and below. Although volume of spring lamb increased, available supplies were still rather small in comparison with old crop offerings. The week's higher carcass beef prices were influenced mainly by higher live and dressed costs, rather than by a broader local demand. Some houses reported fairly good shipping outlets, however, particularly on primal cuts. Beef loins and rounds were most active, squarecut chucks slow. Sellers found it difficult to break carcasses profitably, particularly lighter-weights. For some weeks now there has been a spread of only $1.00 between Choice 500 and 900# steer beef. Lamb and veal trading was dull. In lamb cuts, most buyers were interested in hindsaddles and legs while trade on forequarter meat was practically at a standstill. Fresh pork trade was slow all week. The only price advance on pork cuts was on spareribs 3# down which moved best. Some carryover of beef chucks and lamb forequarter meat is indicated, otherwise clearances should be fair. Compared to last Thursday's close: Beef 50¢ to $2.50 higher, full advance Good grade; veal mostly steady to $1.00 up; lamb $1.00 higher; pork loins $1.00 to $2.00 higher; Boston butts steady to $2.00 lower; spareribs 3# down $2.00-2.50 higher.

Choice and Prime squarecut beef chucks brought $25.00-28.00; Prime rounds $40.00-41.00, Choice $38.00-39.00; Prime loins $85.00-87.00, Choice $63.00-67.00; Prime ribs $56.00-59.00, Choice $40.00-43.00; Choice and Prime kosher style chucks $28.00-30.00. Lamb hindsaddles turned at $49.00-55.00, legs $49.00-52.00; loins $55.00-62.00; hotel ribs $48.00-52.00. Lamb stews and shoulders were slowest moving of lamb cuts and sold at $14.00-18.00, and $20.00-26.00, respectively.

PACIFIC COAST WHOLESALE MEAT TRADE REVIEW

Trading for most classes was rather slow although occasional fairly large deliveries were made early in the week to replenish stocks after Easter. Outlet was moderately curtailed, however, due to the fact that retailers in some instances had a sizable volume of previously purchased meats on hand, and supplies of most classes proved fully adequate for the demand. Supply of steer beef was fairly liberal, with veal and calf in moderate to small volume. New crop offerings made up bulk of the lamb supply as old crop lamb was about depleted. Pork supplies were seasonally reduced but were more than sufficient for the demand. Prices compared with the previous Friday: Beef strong to $1.00 higher; veal and calf mostly steady, some firmness at San Francisco; spring lamb $1.00-2.00 lower; pork steady to $1.00 higher except loins $3.00 higher in instances; smoked skinned hams and picnics $2.00 higher; lard steady to 50¢ higher.

Choice steer beef under 700# cashed largely from $32.00-34.00, some under 600# to $36.00 in California; 700-800# $31.00-33.00 in California; Good 500-700# $30.00-33.00, few under 600# to $34.00 early in the week at Los Angeles; Commercial $26.00-31.00; Utility $26.00-30.00. Commercial cow beef bulked from $25.00-28.00 in California and $26.00-30.00 in the Northwest; Utility $23.00-28.00; Canner and Cutter $22.00-24.00.

Good and Choice veal carcasses under 150# brought $38.00-48.00, some Choice to $49.00 at Seattle; Good and Choice calf under 200# $33.00-39.00. Choice and Prime spring lamb carcasses sold from $37.00-45.00; Choice old crop largely $33.00-40.00 on weights to 60#; Utility to Choice mutton nominally $21.00-24.00 at Los Angeles and $15.00-17.00 in the Northwest. Fresh closely trimmed pork loins under 16# brought $40.00-48.00; shoulders same weight $24.00-34.00; fresh skinned hams under 18# $44.00-50.00; Boston butts under 8# $30.00-38.00; spareribs under 8# $35.00-42.00; smoked skinned hams under 18# $48.00-54.00, few to $55.00 at Seattle; slab bacon under 10# $30.00-40.00; sliced 1# packages $37.00-42.00, few heat sealed packs to $44.00 in the Northwest; lard in 1# cartons $13.50-18.00.

WHOLESALE DRESSED MEAT PRICES: WEEKLY AVERAGE OF DAILY QUOTATIONS

In dollars per 100 pounds

Classification	New York			Chicago			San Francisco		
	Apr. 7 1956	Mar. 31 1956	Apr. 9 1955	Apr. 7 1956	Mar. 31 1956	Apr. 9 1955	Apr. 7 1956	Mar. 31 1956	Apr. 9 1955
Beef –									
Steer –									
Prime 500–700#	41.50	40.62	--	38.90	37.55	49.50	--	--	--
700–800	40.00	39.00	49.50	38.90	37.55	49.50	--	--	--
Choice 500–600	--	--	--	34.05	33.05	39.50	35.00	34.00	39.50
600–700	35.50	33.25	41.50	34.05	33.05	41.50	33.00	32.50	38.50
Good 350–600	31.75	29.50	37.00	30.70	28.75	36.00	32.00	32.00	37.00
Com'l. " "	28.00	28.00	33.50	27.90	26.95	32.50	29.00	29.00	34.00
Cow, all wts. –									
Commercial	27.25	26.00	30.20	--	--	--	26.50	26.00	29.50
Utility	25.00	24.00	26.50	--	--	--	24.00	23.00	25.50
Veal –									
Prime 80–110#	41.00	41.00	41.10	41.50	41.50	44.80	--	--	--
Choice " "	36.50	36.50	36.50	36.80	36.60	41.10	--	--	43.00
Good " "	29.50	29.90	33.30	33.80	33.60	38.20	43.00	43.00	41.00
Lamb –									
Prime 40–50#	39.30	40.60	43.70	39.40	38.70	44.50	40.40*	41.00*	45.80*
50–60	37.70	38.60	41.40	37.40	36.40	42.60	--	--	--
Choice 40–50	39.30	40.60	43.70	39.40	38.70	43.20	38.80*	--	45.80*
50–60	37.70	38.60	41.40	37.40	36.40	40.30	--	--	--
Good all wts.	36.20	37.00	40.60	36.90	35.90	38.60	--	39.00*	39.50
Pork – Fresh –									
Loins 8–10# av.	41.30	41.60	45.80	40.00	38.20	44.00	45.00	42.40	51.00
10–12 "	41.30	41.60	45.80	40.00	38.20	44.00	46.00	44.40	49.00
12–16 "	40.70	40.20	43.50	39.50	38.00	43.00	45.00	42.20	48.00
Butts 4–8 "	33.20	29.50	35.00	29.35	29.90	34.00	36.00	34.00	40.00
Pork – Cured –									
Hams, smk., skd. –									
12–16# av.	49.50	46.50	49.50	52.45	50.40	50.20	51.00	50.00	53.00
16–18 "	46.10	44.50	45.50	51.55	49.90	48.50	50.00	49.50	51.00
18–20 "	--	--	--	50.70	48.80	47.40	--	--	--
Bacon, smk., slab –									
6–8# av.	--	--	--	31.35	30.75	45.10	38.00	38.00	53.00
8–10 "	32.50	33.00	38.50	30.30	29.20	43.00	36.00	36.00	46.00
Sliced 1 # pkg.	38.00	38.00	47.50	36.35	35.30	49.90	40.00	40.00	51.00
Picnics, smoked –									
4–8# av.	25.50	25.00	32.50	29.50	28.55	34.70	30.00	28.00	34.00
Backs, D. S. –									
16–20# av.	15.00	13.00	14.50	11.75	11.75	11.45	--	--	--
Lard, 1# cartons –									
Refined	16.00	16.00	16.00	14.75	14.35	15.75	17.25	17.25	17.50
Substitutes	--	--	--	--	--	28.00	--	--	--

Note: Quotations at New York exclude locally dressed meats.
*Spring lamb.

BOSTON WOOL MARKET REVIEW

Turnover of greasy domestic worsted wools in the Boston market continued quiet as approximately eighteen cars were moved. Prices held unchanged to slightly easier for some grades as vertical mill buyers were the principal operators. Movement of scoured wools and noils was very slow at lower prices. Buying in the wool-producing states was slower than in recent weeks. Scattered lots were purchased in the Territory states, while 8-months wools were purchased in Texas. Operations in the Fleece wool states were very dull.

All the Dominion markets remained closed following the Easter recess. A strike of shearers in Australia attracted the attention of Boston wool dealers. The South American markets were dormant.

Fleece Wools - Graded 64s Fleece yearling wool, staple and good French combing length sold at $1.25 clean basis while graded 56/58s good French combing and staple Fleeces around 53¢ in the grease brought from $1.00 to $1.02 clean and 50/54s good French and staple moved from 94½¢ to 98¢. Country buyers were offering 42¢ and 43¢ grease basis to the growers.

Territory Wools - Graded Territory 56/58s good French combing and staple sold in a range from $1.06 to $1.10 clean basis while graded 50/54s good French and staple brought $1.02. Original bag New Mexico bulk 70s average and good French combing sold at $1.30 clean while original bag Territory 64s bulk staple length brought $1.28. Greasy fine and medium clippings sold at 28¢ to 30¢ grease basis. Grease prices to the growers in the Territory states covered a wide range. In New Mexico, prices ranged from 25½¢ to 49 3/4¢ depending on shrink while in Nevada 41¢ was paid for bulk fine wool. In the San Joaquin valley of California, prices ranged from 39¢ to 46¢ to the growers and were estimated to cost clean from $1.17 to $1.22 delivered Boston.

Texas Wools - Bulk average to good French combing Texas wool in original bags sold at $1.30 to $1.32 while bulk average French combing with some good French brought $1.25 clean. Graded good French combing and staple 12 months Texas moved at $1.30. A fair to good weight of 8 months wool sold in Texas at 47¢ to 50¢ and was estimated to cost from $1.15 to $1.17 clean basis, delivered Boston.

Mohair - A good weight of Mohair sold in Texas for export at 81½¢ for Adult and 91½¢ for Kid Mohair to the warehouse.

Sales of CCC Wools - The Commodity Credit Corporation announced on April 5, 1956 that approximately 305,000 pounds of C.C.C.-owned wools were sold, from bids received on a total of about 3,100,000 pounds. The principal grades, quantities and sales price ranges (before discounts, if any) follow:

	Pounds	Price Range
Graded Territory fine short French and clothing	71,901	$1.16 - $1.17
" " 3/8s blood short French and clothing	129,792*	.85 - .91
" Fleece 1/4 blood staple and good French 50/54s	25,000	1.00
Scoured shorn Fleece 3/8s blood staple and good French	29,400	1.152 - 1.16
" " woolen type 12 months 58s	25,100	.951 - .96

* No more of this class now left in the inventory.

Foreign Wools - The Cape market resumed sales on April 5 with no change in quotes from last auction. Sales of spot foreign wools were practically at a standstill.

Carpet Wools - Trade in carpet wools was stagnant as prices held about unchanged in all primary markets. A greasy pulled white continental carpet wool sold at 80¢ clean basis while a greasy pulled colored continental wool brought 50¢ clean.

LIVESTOCK MARKET REVIEW - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 293

Cull to low-Good lambs sold at $12.00-19.00. Most Good to Prime spring lambs realized $20.00-23.25, a few $23.50 at Omaha. Good to Prime shorn lambs carrying No. 2 to fall shorn pelts brought $17.50-20.25, including Choice 121# averages at $19.00 at Chicago. Medium to Choice feeder lambs sold mainly at $16.00-18.00, a deck of Good spring feeder lambs $18.50. Some shorn full mouth bred ewes sold at $25.00 per head.

WESTERN LIVESTOCK REVIEW

Good demand especially at the week's opening was a factor in sustaining the currently rising price trend on most mature slaughter livestock at Far West terminals. Slaughter steers, heifers and cows closed largely steady to 50¢ higher except for weakness on heifers at Denver and on cows at Los Angeles. Vealers and slaughter calves sold strong to $1.00 higher at Ogden, $1.00-2.00 lower at Stockton and mostly steady at other terminals. Stocker and feeder cattle closed unevenly 50¢ lower to 50¢ higher, instances $1.00 up at Ogden and Spokane. Outlet for barrows and gilts was comparatively broad and prices advanced 50¢-$1.25. Wooled slaughter lambs closed 50-75¢ or more higher at Denver, with a small volume of old crop and spring slaughter lambs steady to $1.00 lower at other terminals.

A load of high-Choice and Prime 1160# slaughter steers reached $23.00 at Los Angeles. Good and Choice offerings cashed at other Far West terminals from $18.00-21.50, a few low-Good steers down to $17.00 at Ogden and Denver; Commercial slaughter steers brought $14.50-17.00. Good and Choice slaughter heifers cleared from $16.00-20.00. Mostly Utility and Commercial cows sold from $11.00-15.50; Canners and Cutters $9.00-12.50. Choice vealers brought $26.00-30.00 in the Northwest, other Good and Choice vealers together with slaughter calves under 350# earning $20.00-25.00; heavier slaughter calves of the same grades unevenly $16.00-22.00. Good and Choice stocker and feeder steers sold from $16.00-19.50; heifers of the same grades $14.50-17.50. Stock steer calves grading Good and Choice brought $19.00-21.00 at Denver and $17.00-20.00 at most other terminals; heifer calves $15.50-18.00.

Direct trade on slaughter steers and heifers at California feedlots reflected advances of 25-50¢ or more. High-Good to Choice slaughter steers weighing mostly under 1200# sold for immediate delivery at $20.00-21.50, some mixed Good and Choice $20.00, few loads average-Good $18.50. Good to mostly Choice fed heifers cleared from $18.00-19.00; fed cattle sales largely f.o.b. ranch at 4% shrink. Several loads of Utility and Commercial cows sold from $13.00-14.00. Selling and contracting of California grass steers and heifers expanded with prices steady to 50¢ higher. Several thousand head of steers sold for immediate to May 1 delivery from $17.00-18.00, around 150 head of 760# offerings for immediate delivery at $18.10, with 2800 yearlings and two-year-old steers at $17.50; around 200 head two-year olds $16.50. Good and Choice feeder heifers brought $15.00-16.00, few $16.25, some Medium and Good $14.50; sales f.o.b. ranch at none to 4%, mostly 3 to 4% shrink.

Late in the week mixed lots of U. S. No. 1 to 3 180-240# barrows and gilts brought $16.75 in South San Francisco; $17.50 at Stockton; $16.00-16.50 at Los Angeles; $16.50-18.00 at Portland, $16.25-16.75 at Spokane; $15.75-16.50 at Ogden; $15.50-16.25 at Denver.

Choice wooled slaughter lambs bulked at Denver from $19.75-21.25; Good and Choice natives there $18.00-20.00. At other terminals Good and Choice old crop slaughter lambs brought $16.00-19.25, these with No. 1 pelts or better. A small number of Good to Prime spring lambs cleared from $19.00-21.00. Direct trade on California spring lambs was less active than the previous week. A few sales and contracts, primarily for prompt delivery, reflected a firm undertone at $18.50-19.00 for slaughter lambs. Most buying activity centered in the San Joaquin Valley. Around 800 spring feeder lambs in the Madera Area of the Valley brought $17.00.

UNITED STATES EXPORTS AND IMPORTS OF MEATS

Commodity	Jan. 1956	Jan. 1955
	Pounds	Pounds
EXPORTS (Domestic) -		
Beef and veal -		
Fresh or frozen	5,063,143	5,635,514
Pickled or cured	769,135	823,000
Pork -		
Hams & shoulders, cured or cooked and bacon	1,869,136	1,489,863
Other pork, fresh, frozen, pickled, salted or otherwise cured	6,177,606	3,101,092
Other meats, except canned (Incl. edible animal organs)	9,260,839	4,070,581
Canned meats -		
Beef and veal	506,647	533,993
Sausage, prepared sausage meats, bologna and frankfurters	855,272	361,077
Pork	338,838	251,808
Lard, (includes rend. pork fat and shortenings (chief wt. animal fat)	65,355,052	54,807,146
Tallow, edible	1,213,550	361,212
Tallow, inedible	113,400,292	83,910,723
Inedible animal oils, greases and fats, n.e.c.	13,763,337	17,227,283
IMPORTS -		
Beef, fresh or frozen	2,886,195	1,689,818
Veal, fresh or frozen	6,000	--
Beef and veal, pickled or cured	273,428	304,746
Canned beef (includes corned beef)	4,541,955	4,516,437
Pork, fresh or chilled or frozen	2,975,095	4,142,335
Hams, shoulders, bacon & other pork 1/	409,178	630,620
Canned cooked hams & shoulders	9,657,554	9,349,276
Other pork, prepared or preserved 2/	1,283,514	1,169,619
Meats, fresh, chilled, frozen, n.e.s.	3,648	120,029
Meats, canned, prep. or pres. n.e.s.	725,796	583,738
Lamb, mutton and goat meat	136,965	103,215
Tallow, inedible	90,463	166,380
Animal fats and greases, n.e.s.	21,453	577,698

1/ Not cooked, boned or canned or made into sausage.

2/ Includes fresh pork sausage.

Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.

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UNITED STATES EXPORTS AND IMPORTS OF LIVESTOCK

	Jan. 1956	Jan. 1955
	Number	Number
EXPORTS (domestic) -		
Cattle for breeding	2,660	2,714
Other cattle	2,511	337
IMPORTS -		
Cattle for breeding, free -		
Canada 1/-		
Bulls	29	41
Cows	1,133	717
Other Countries -		
Bulls	1	--
Cows	12	--
Cattle, other edible (dut.) -		
Canada -		
Over 700 pounds (Dairy	1,553	1,214
Over 700 pounds (Other	95	1,400
200-700 pounds	--	197
Under 200 pounds	2	--
Mexico -		
Over 700 pounds (Dairy	25	10
Over 700 pounds (Other	123	28,825
200-700 pounds	12,916	67,284
Under 200 pounds	41	35
Hogs -		
Edible, except for breeding (dut.) 2/	4	370
Horses -		
For breeding, free	71	54
Other (dut.)	152	113
Sheep, lambs and goats, edible (dut.)	--	26

1/ Includes Newfoundland and Labrador.
2/ Number of hogs based on estimate of 200 pounds per animal.

Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.